## Captain Loredan ... A. D. 1499.

Old Venice grappled with the Turk In fourteen handred ninety-nine; In truth it was a troubled work, and ruddy were the seas as wine; For dread Bajazet set afloat For gread Bajazet set affoat
Against our fleet three hundred sail;
And when he took a fishing boat
Remorselessly his soldiers smote
Our helpless men, and poured their blood
Upon the Adriatic's flood.
His cruisers left a bloody trail;
Our Admiral Grimani lay
In hesthating stience till. In hesitating silence till,

In hesitating silence till,
While yet irresolate, one day
He heard our fock of galleys thrill
With lusty, manly singing,
With claimer load and long,
And through his brain went ringing
This borden of the song:
"Oh, where is Castain Loredan?
For he will a the the way!
Give us our Captain Loredan,
And we will tempt the fray!
Now listen to this hourg han
Who leans upon his oar;
He'll tell you how brave Loredan
Siew twenty Turks and more!" Slew twenty Turks and more! hrough the ships the story ran,
do'er the stars the glory ran—
The story of
The glory of
ctorious great Loredan:

But not with fear; it was with rages or he had sworn that in this fight He'd blot proud Loredan's bright page. What is this Captain Loredan But officer at my command?" He cried: "Fil crush the daring man, And lest he rush into the yan. And lest he rush into the van

And lest he rush into the van
Of battle, newer fame to win,
I'll fold my galley's banners in,
And hag the comfortable land."
So said he; and becased the deck
With jealous envy at his sade;
While grim 3-jazet wrought his wreck
Ameng our shipping far and wide.
But still came breezes bringing
Our galley oarsmen's song;
O'er purple waters flinging
Its profest against wrong: Its protest against wrong: On, where is Captain Loredan? He's here with us, to-day!
Give us our Captain Loredan—
He will not bid us stay!
Now listen to this houry man
Who leans upon his oar;
He'll tell you how stanch Loredan
Has awent the wayes before."

Has swept the waves before So through the ships the story ran, And o'er the seas the story ran— The story of The glory of Victorious great Loredan!

Nor day nor night Grimani stirred; The Tarkish fleet, grown bold, drew near; Our men, impatient, begged the word For section; but Grimani's snear For action; but Grimani's sneer
Froze up their hearts, until one morn,
Out from the shimmering splender broke
A blood-red dawn-for battle born;
And haughtily, as if in gorn,
The Crescent's pennant fluttered high
Upon the mighty craft—close by—
Standing alone.

Then, with one stroke
Of springing oars, a galley sped
Out from our midst; a second came
To join her; and like lightning fied
Beyond Grimani's cry of "Sname!
What are those oarsinen singing
Who my command disdain?"
Back came the answer ringing,

Back came the answer ringing, Back came the answer ringing,
In strange cestatic strain:
"This is the Captain Loredan;
These be his galleys twain!
Lo: here is Captain Loredan,
Whom fools cannot restrain!

Now listen to this hoary man Who toils upon his oar; And win with Captain Loredan-So through the ships the story ran-And through all hearts the glory ran-The story of The glory of Victorious great Loredan I

From her gigantic sides rained down Huge missiles with destruction rife; And many a fighter fell to drown Setween the galleys' sides that shook As if with frenzied laughter, when As It with Frenzied tanginer, when The thinders of our cannon took The yellow from the Turk's wild look And brought the ashes to his lips. He could not light these bellowing ships— Nor war with these enchanted men Who climbed along his galleon's rail;

Who swam, and sank, and sprang in space Still fighting; men who scorned to wail
Tho' carved by swords; and who with grace
Kept up their rhythmic singing
With dying lips that bled;
Sang—to the galleys clinging
With fingers battle-red— "This is the Captain Loredan

So through the ships the story ran,

Swift sailing from the roseate East
Came kindred ships the Turks to aid;
And now the struggle's rage increased;
Wild flames broke forth to make afraid
The Moslems on their conquered craft.
Just as the banner of Saint Mark
Was raised upon her—fore and aft—
Camea weird shudder. And abaft
The wretched Turks ran-quakingly
To leap into the crimsoned sea:

Fo leap into the crimsoned sea; Then came vast thunder. It was dark. The ship—our splendid galleys—all
Went skyward—rending friends and foes,
As fire burst through the wooden wall To stores of powder.

Then arose-

Out from the chaos bringing A harmony complete-"To die with Captain Loredan Is lov enough for men! Who accepted die with Loredan No matter how or when?

No matter how or when?
Oh, listen to this hoary man
Who floats upon his car;
He sings the death of Loredan,
Who ne'er will lead him more

To Venice, so the story ran,
And through the world the story ran—
The story of
The glory of
Victorious dead Loredan!
—Edward King, in Boston Jour

## Mr. Farquhar's Niece.

Mr. Farquhar certainly did not intend to invite his niece to join him in Paris, when he wrote to inform her that he was making a short stay there, en route to his native country. The fact was that he had never set eyes on the young lady, having been absent in India nearly twenty years; and, consequently, he did not feel much personal interest in her. But he had generously paid for her education and maintenance since she had lost her pr rents, and was prepared to make a home for her on his arrival in England : therefore he had written her a

for to announce his return. was wary much surprised, certed, when two formed, on reachevening stroll on a young lady who from England was he salon, and before from his astonish mself in the presence lifully held up a rece to be kissed. my dear," said old

er availing himself your arrival is quite I should certainly the station had I would be surprised.

jung lady, blushing. ly friends, Mr. and aghast. Bre coming over towered your letter.' ter which could be con- adventurer."

said Mr. Farquear, heartily.

necessary alterations in her toiles. Mr. in the course of the next day, within Farquhar superintended the details of 2 few hours after Miss Amy and her a dainty little repast, which the young abductor. lady found awaiting her when she He could hardly control his impacame down. The old gentleman was tience during the long and weary chocolate color and gold, drawn by more delighted than ever with his journey, and arrived at his destination niece's appearance when he beheld her in a state of furious indignation. Not divested of her hat and traveling at- knowing where Colonel Ingram was tire, and could hardly take his eyes off staying, he started off to make inquiher. In fact admiration and astonish- ries at all the principal hotels. He ment rendered him strangely silent; first drove to the Hotel National with-and as the young lady was evidently out result; but at the Hotel Monopole thickly embroidered with gold, loose, fatigued after her journey, their con- his enterprise was rewarded. versation was not of a yery confiden- learnt that Colonel Ingram and Miss boots with tops of irreproachable white-

name is Amy, you know; not Ada." it was Ada," replied Mr. Farquhar, in some confusion; and having submitted with good grace to another dutiful turned deadly pale, while Colonel In and to the Christian listener outside salute, he opened the door for her, and gram rose from his seat, and said; rath- seemed very much like a High Church made his way to the smoking-room, to er defiantly: discuss a cheroot before turning in. It was astonishing what an exhilar- is, sir?"

see the sights of Paris. He was up Mr. Farquhar, firmly. made a pilgrimage to the Mandeleine hauteur. elegant little bouquet, which he placed turned Mr. Farquhar, angrily. by the side of his niece's plate.

pretty ecstasies over the bouquet which her uncle had provided, and insisted son nor is she your niece. May I ask The ministers and marshals their horses curveting and prancing, rode herses curveting and prancing, rode But the fact was that he paid very lady. I will give you my card with camp, grooms and the men of his spelittle attention to what his niece was pleasure," he added, laying it on the saying, being absorbed in watching table with trembling mand. her and listening to her musical voice. The yeu know that name, my dear?"

His niece had fairly bewitched him, dangled Colonel Ingram, glancing at and it only dawned upon the old gent the tard and handing it to the young that he had larged into a strategy large. It is to the soldiers presenting arms and taking up the cry in succession as his manies of pashas and beys, and the loud shouts of "Padishah chok Pasha!" the soldiers presenting arms and taking up the cry in succession as his manies of pashas and beys, and the soldiers presenting arms and taking up the cry in succession as his manies of pashas and beys, and the soldiers presenting arms and taking up the cry in succession as his manies of pashas. tleman that he had lapsed into a stu- lady.

her turn, suddenly left off talking of color was mounting to her cheek. evident she never had. At first Mr. Farguhar was afraid he man, elderly, but still handsome, with anxiety." an iron-gray mustache, who was just | Poor Mr. Farquhar looked th taking his seat near them. Mr. Far-ture of confusion. The colonel's frank

suspicions were allaved. What is the matter, my dear

With these hurried worls the young hotel he found that his portmanteau back of the neck. The poor a ad rose and vanished from the room before her uncle could interfere. The worn out with fatigue and excitement, old gentleman was quite startled by he wisely determined to stay where he her abrupt departure; and after ten was for the night. He therefore ofminutes' interval he sent up to inquire dered dinner, and by degrees recovered With a graceful temenah what was the matter with her. A his equanimity sufficiently to be able all present his majesty F.

charactermaid brought down word that to reflect with calmness on what had followed in a short ting are mece had a headache and proposed happened. Tie down for an hour. Relieved breakfast and strolled into the court-

After lounging about for nearly two his first suspicions were correct, and which the sultan is sur hours, Mr. Farquhar sent again to in- that the young lady upstairs was as being the father of t quite after his niece. This time came really his niece. The colonel's ingenu- give an adequate der to her as she did not feel well enough sumed to put bim off the scent, and quire much more s' the accompany him. Mr. Farquhar, therefore started off rather disconso-When he returned it was past mid-

times at the door without eliciting any response, he cautiously turned the handle and found the apartment deserted. This was rather an unpleasant surprise, and Mr. Farquinar began to feel vaguely uneasy. He made inquiries vagately uneasy. He made inquiries of the servants, but none of them could give him any tidings of Miss Amy.

But the fault of the people at the hotel at Paris, was all the fault of the people at the hotel at Paris, was all the fault of the people at the hotel at Paris, and I never suspected anything until my uncle came into the room while we were at breakfast. He had been As it was evident she was not in the hotel, Mr. Farmhar sallied forth with the idea that she might have gone for a walk during his absence. He spent the rest of the day in wandering aim-lessly about the streets, and returning at short intervals to the hotesto inquire if his niece had come back. By degrees be worked himself into a state of nervous excitement, and when it

cate with the police. Be as coing so, course, she feels awkward, for she however, it occurred to him to ascer-kissed me more than once, thinking I tain the name of the gentleman who was her uncle." lead sat near to them at breakfast, recierge identified the individual in ques- and resentment from his mind.

tion as a Colonel Ingram, adding sud-"But, wait ! The voting lady monsieur is seeking went away with that N. Y., thus writes to the Medical

se I should not have added the concierge.

susceptible old gentla disappearance, he had no difficulty in to eat these ants whenever they can errained. The truth was he obtaining further information, which found. As these insects retain the ery much struck by his niece's convinced him that his suspicions were vitality while frozen imbedded in possessing appearance. He pos- correct. A porter had brought down wood dust which they themse a photograph of her taken some the young lady's luggage by the gen-make, might it not be possible and which had given him a tleman's orders, and had placed it on could be collected in sufficient idea of her attractions, the omnibus. The English colonel ap- to carry them frozen and sned that he had peared to be au mieux with the young sawdust till needed for how long wheelbarrow's plaintive voice; then are children of members of the Reotively. He demoiselle, and they had driven off to gether. Mr. Farquhar subsequently will they retain their vit not many ascertained that they had gone to the condition? Are there bets which railway station, where their luggage classes of hibernating

d been labeled for Geneva. Farquhar was an energetic old might answer the same ith to his feelings. He felt in duty avoid being address: follow the fugitives. The power to rescue night without the hound to do all in his power to rescue follow the fugitives. The feit in duty avoid being address hound to do all in his power to rescue night without to bound though he was naturally perienced said. bound to do all in his power to rescue night without relief perienced relief perienced relief. his niece, and thousa he was naturally perienced points replied: "We" perienced points replied: "We" carry a cloth he was ready to make excuses for her,

"Hi! and to believe that she had been decoyed waiter. Tell the chambermaid-femme away. His first impulse was to telede chambre, you saler to conduct graph to the police to arrest his niece's this lady to a room mear mine. And, companion; but with the object of bless my soul, you sees be hungry, my avoiding a scandal, and from an indear! Dinner, waiter, directly." I born spirit of caution, he abandoned While his miece was making the this idea, as he hoped to reach Geneva

Amy had arrived there early that ness. In the carriage of Abdul Hadon't hesitate to go to your room," found himself face to face with the major domo of the palace, and Dersaid Mr. Farquhar, noticing at the palace, and pair. his niece's fatigue. "You mustn't Colonel Ingram occupied a private now a great deal of the imperial favor. spoil your roses, Ada, and we have a sitting-room, and was lounging by an lot of sight-seeing before us."

The coach was sent away shortly after open window which overlooked the the arrival of the sultan and a mag-"Thank you, uncle," said the young lake, smoking a cigar, while Miss Amy nificent-looking white Arab charger lady, rising from the table; "but my was leaning over the balcony, watch- was brought up to the door of the ing the people in the street below. mosque, with silk and gold tasseled

"May I inquire what your business

ating effect the arrival of his niece had "I' am that young lady's uncle and the ministers and marshals mounted upon the old gentleman. He felt quite guardian, and I am here to demand an their chargers, while the naval and young and jaunty at the prospect of explanation of your disgraceful and military pashas of lower rank and the having to escort a pretty girl about to unprincipled conduct, sir," cried old boys formed in two lines as before. betimes the next morning, and dressed "What do you mean? I don't under bustle at the mosque door, where himself with especial care. He even stand," said Colonel Ingram, with great two fine Circassian cavalrymen with

"Miss Nicholson! I assure you, six by some half-dozen grooms, the guard Miss Amy came down to breakfast, von are mistaken," replied Colonel The of honor turned a half face, the troops looking fresh and rosy and charming gram, perceiving that his visitor was presented arms, the music struck up after her night's rest. She went into neither mad nor intoxicated. "This the sultan's march and the whole propretty ecstasies over the bouquet which young lady's name is not Miss Nichol-

She laughed and talked "Pon my word, this is too much," gayly during the meal, and Mr. Farque exclaimed Mr. Farquhar, indignantly, them and the Padishah. The latter, har learnt a good deal of news about though inwardly disconcerted by Col- with Ghazi Mouktar at his bridle rein, members of the family whom he did one! Ingram's apparent straightfor on the one side and Osman Pasha on not recollect ever having heard of wardness. "I appeal to the young the other, surrounded by aides-de-

Mr. Campion Farquhar. efied silence when the young lady, in

had omitted to reply to some remark laboring under a misapprehension," of the weather or the callousness with which needed an answer. He soon said Colonel Ingram, frankly. "You which Turks have grown to regar perceived, however, that his niece's are probably misled by some accidental everything connected with their eyes were turned anxicusly toward an- resemblance between this young lady other part of the room, and following and your niece. I sympathize with the direction of her startled gaze he your disappointment, and hope you one petition presented. The mg beheld, a tall, military-looking gentle- will be soon relieved of your evident looked like an American, ha

quhar experienced a wild unreasoning tone carried conjection with it while at a table with his back to tnem, his between her and his niece, Miss Nichollarge gates, his majesty dismounted son, was most striking, but in his it and stood for a few minutes on the he tation Mr. Farquhar began to im- marble steps. A card bearing some agine he saw points of difference. It verses of the Koran was placed in his agine he saw points of difference. It verses of the Koran was placed in his band, and while he was reading them rious tinciness that he had made an absurd a magnificent-looking sheep

On descending to the hall of the ficial flowers had been fastened had been taken off the cab, and being lifted by the attendants, was m

Unfortunately, his deliberations did who had come from the by this report, Mr. Farquhar finished his not conduce to his peace of mind, for sheep similarly adorned v, the more he thought over the matter. tered at the foot of the the more convinced did he feel that that being the extent of sage requesting him not to wait ous manner had evidently been as ceremony which foll recalling to mind the young lady's agi- be spared. Dolmatation when he entered the room, Mr. the most magnificer Farguhar came to the conclusion that ist in Europe-ma he was the victim of a clever con- fluted columns and day, and not finding his niece in any of the salons, he ventured to go up to her another visit to Colonei Ingram's massive chandely room. Having knocked two or three apartment, a waiter handed him a note candelabra. written in pencil in a lady's hand, the scale of which showed traces of haste and agitation. Mr. Farquhar put on his cabinets and fu glasses, and read with amazement as tions, and such

> DEAR SIR-I implore you to keep my secre persuaded my uncle to leave rais at once, never thinking you would take any more trouble about me. Pray forgive me for my ungrateful conduct to you just now, but please keep my secret, or my uncle might be angry. I will tell him some day really. Do please forgive me, and accept my grateful thanks for your kindness. Yours sincerely, AMY BETHUNE.

"Poer little thing!" murmured Mr. began to grow dark and Miss Amy did Farquhar, when he had read the let- place. ter which he handled tenderly. "Of course, she feels awkward, for she The recollection of this agreeable

membering that his niece had appeared episode caused the old gentleman to startled at seeing him. Upon being break into a good-humored chuckle, arnished with his description, the con- which banished every trace of anger

# Dr. E. F. Brush, of Mount Vernon.

gentleman. I recollect that M. de Record: "I have just been reading in Colonel had a young lady with him." the Record Lieutenant Schwatka's ar-"What!" exclaimed Mr. Farquhar, ticle on scurvy, and wish to call attention to an article of diet, which, if "They started off in the hotel omni- procurable in sufficient quantities, iled myself of their bus about midday, without luggage," might be a valuable addition to the arctic voyager's diet list, namely, the or two or at all events "Good God!" exclaimed good Mr. large black ants found in the wood of wered your letter." Farquhar, wiping his brow; "what the pine trees. Scurvy very often at great occasion, but during the rest of has never since been discontinued. That poor child tacks the lumber men of Maine, and the year.—Boston Times. did not recollect any- must have eloped with some-some they adopt this food as a remedy when suffering from the disease. Indee nvitation, but being a Having found a clew to his neice's some of them become so fond of it

> The exnamer tartly

### A TURKISH FESTIVAL.

How the Sultan Killed a Sheep at the Bairam Ceremonies. A Constantinople letter of recent date to a New York paper gives this interesting account of the peculiar Turkish religious ceremony in which the sultan took a prominent part: Courban-Bairam has just begun. The sultan drove down from Yildiz in his state coach, a very handsome affair, all four bay horses, with gorgeously appareled outriders, running footmen people is a sort of Albanian costumejackets with hanging sleeves of a deep He baggy trousers of blue cloth, and riding "Amy, to be sure. I was thinking Both turned round when Mr. Farquhar bridle and saddle cloth, a mass of red performance of some ceremonial of his own religion with its chanting of the prayers. Presently, a bugle scunded. The soldiers stood to their arms and a their keen-cutting "kamas" kept watch market to purchase a flower for his "Trepeat, sir, that Miss Nicholson is and ward, showed that his majesty buttonhole, not forgetting also a very my niece, and I am her guardian," re- was about to appear. As the sultan mounted the charger, carefully held cession moved off at a stately pace.

a little ahead, leaving a space between jesty passed each battalion. The sultan had a weary look upon never heard it before in my life," was his face, as if the thought had struck Then he awoke to the fact that his the reply, uttered in a low nervous him of the hollowness of all this show niece was showing symptoms of sem- tone, and from the manner in which of military strength when Europe was barrassment, and that a bright flush she mispronounced the name it was determined to treat him as but a pup-

pet in the arena of politics. Whether "Really, Mr. Farquhar, you are owing to the unpromising appearance ernment, there were fewer spect present than usual, and I notices his ground well, and ung sheet as the sultan passed caught his a slight in-

was she aded becoming, pal miscase algorithms of the fairly bolted out of the room as the driven snow, its horns in the standard part and a knot of ribbons and artight a little faint, that is that he fairly bolted out of the room with a muttered apology.

The part is you will recise me for a with a muttered apology. imal. present its throat, and the sultar, a small knife from a richly salver, made the requisite

the great functionaries and To would rethan could alaces that ex--paneled walls. rool wool covvstal staircases. and standing parquet floors, ric

carved and inlaid arpets as make one break the tenth ne away after a peep see them, sends f the palace with a at the interior ace and profuseness of use of it."-New York Sun. mind full of ental magnifi d to this the gorgeous the broad sashes and uniforms w of the great functionaries, many and the nierarchy, and the music naterials which formed the imperial power that took

mon mistake of retail dealers lect advertising when trade is before the rush sets in. Adis like sowing seed. The harows. It does not come at the vest me. It does not come without same ring. The time to advertise is people are not too busy to read s than when they refer to the as to a directory. During the l'enn celebration in Philadelphia nerchants of that city crowded press with their announcements. afterward expressed disappointnt with the trade. This leads one the wisest journals of that city to nark that perhaps the merchants ve learned by this experience that

## Masic Hath Charms.

four-footed choir is head and ears until after the beginning of the present above all human possibilities. The century. in music begins with an andante move- The school now contains about one Of ment, soft and sweet as the ungreased hundred and fifty pupils, all of whom crown and summit, the cloud-capped required to attend Sunday-school. mountain top, of ecstacy and joy. Talk walk out at Boston Transcript.

shawl and needed to supply New York city's de- about three hundred inhabitants.—

### A FLOATING FARM.

an old fellow, a cort of hermit, who lived where I did in a small town in New Ham hire, and if he wasn't the out-ancoutest chap for avoiding the demands of the State, then I'm mistaken." "Why didn't they sell him out?" "Because they couldn't get hold of and coachman. The dress of these the property. No, it wasn't air castles, and he didn't live in a balloon, but on solid property, and every time the tax-Massachusetts." Amy had arrived there early that ness. In the carriage of Abdul Ha- on wheels, and show d it about to

> of Winchendon, Mass., centained about six acres, and was covered with trees originally bog held together by ro

mined it. ur 2. 2 coo the trees as way it went. "Many ls even in stream are found anchor similar islands by tide. They ots, rising and

from the mouth of the river. the Sargasso sea, is a vast island inhabited by a fauna entirely different from that of the surrounding waters, and all the animals are in some way peculiarly adapted or modified to their surroundings. Similar tracts occur in various parts of the world, often so thick that the passage of vessels through them is seriously impeded." speaker, "then old Ezra's floating farm wasn't such a very singular thing after fused pictures of ori- all; but I reckon he made an original

One would not expect to find in the city of New York a school older than Harvard university. On the front of a plain brick building in Twenty-ninth e band, and you have some street near the Seventh avenue may be read the following inscription: "School of the Collegiate Ref. Prot. Dutch Church of the City of New York. Founded A. D. 1633. Erected

Harvard college was founded in know this Reformed Dutch school is the oldest institution of learning now existing within the borders of the United States or even in America. fiftieth year, an anniversary which it intends to celebrate with unusual eclat. called New Amsterdam, and Wouter Von Twiller was governor of the col-

comes the stacrato furioso, the acagio formed Dutch church. The school is fortissimo, splityourearso, followed by not only free, but needy shildren are the tremulous yee-haw, which is the provided with clothing, and all are not of music, fellow-citizens, till you Master Bogardus and his little flock of How can I have heard the song of the mule. Dutch boys, all in cocked hats and morning near Coenties slip! The Thirty thousand horses a year are place was then a Dutch village of

Youth's Companion.

### The Bank of England.

The Way a Yankee Ayelded Paying Taxes-Stories of Bing Islands.

"Speaking about mying taxes," said a man who had perhaps been performing that pleasant dair. "reminds me of

collector came, around in New Hampshire Ezra and his property were in "Oh, I see. He had the State line

suit."
"Not exactly, but he ad his property fixed so that he could stift it anywhere he wanted. It was nothing more nor less than a floating is ade up of bog and stuff, and for a good many years it blew about the and, until finally the old chap put a hut on it, kept a cow, chickens and ducks, and had a regular floating farm. But one day he heard the assessor was coming, so he cast off the moorings that he had rigged to the island, and before the next day the wind had carried him over the State line that ran through the pond into Massachusetts, and when the collector went out in a skiff the old bog-skipper, as they called him, actually threatened to have him arrested for trying to collect the taxes of a neighbor State. He anchored the island on the Massachusetts side until the selectmen got after him there, and for several years he dodged back and forth, and didn't pay a cent on his four acres. But finally they put up a job on him, and two assessors, one from each State, went out in skiffs, the island being anchored in the middle of the lake. The old man said he was ready to pay, only he wanted it just right, as he lived in both States-the house was in one State and the barn in the other. The collectors got so mixed to trying to straighten it that I believe they had to take it into court. Anyway, I don't think the old man's taxes are square

"A similar case might happen at another place in New England," said one of the group of listeners. "On Lake Menomerouk there is an island that for along time was called the mysterious fland. It belonged to the town thirty feet or more high. Some of the people declared that the had seen the island move years ago, at they were generally laughed at untaone morning they found it gone, and now it is, or was a short time ago, over the State line in New Hampshire, nearly three miles from where it first stood. It was

and swinging by their veg Some of the

Carry Vite Durin's the great flood in the Misdistances. i in 1874, vast floating islands sissiprof formed in the river and carried far out into the Gulf stream. One that a vessel ran into 300 miles from the delta was over an acre in extent, seas and be felt so overwhelmed brought upon the scene. The long and populated with a great variety of snakes, frogs and turtles, besides a number of land animals that had sought protection there from the rising waters, only to be swept out to sca. The geographical distribution of life, it will be seen, depends much on these floating islands-a fact proved by comparing the inhabitants of islands miles apart. Several years ago a large snake was picked up off the Bermuda islands clinging to a floating island that without doubt had come from the Amazon. Miles of cordage float out of the great river in the same way, carrying seeds and even animals far around the circuit of the Atlantic. The same is true of the Ganges. Great rafts, populated with animals from the interior, have been found by vessels over 200 miles

"The great mass of seaweed, occupying an area of many thousand square miles in the Atlantic, better known as "Well, I declare," said the first

## Our Oldest School

1636; Yale in 1702. So far as we Founded early in 1633, it is approach the results and 194 out When it began its career the city was

length during which the school has been closed was from 1776 to 1783. te time to advertise is not when the British troops. Before Evacuation when New York was held by the day, however, it was reopened, and Until 1773 the English language was never taught in the school. In that He who has not heard the merry year the deacons of the Dutch Reformed matin song of the tuneful mule, knows church, under whose charge it was, nothing of the power and potency of and is, permitted both languages to be minic in her wildest, freest mood. taught. The Dutch language con-When in solo or concerted opera, the tinued to be a leading object of study

> How changed is New York since leather breeches, came together every

The following is an interesting account of the manner in which the greatest financial institution in the world is conducted: The constitution and government of the Bank of England are not fully understood, even by many otherwise well-informed resilents in the city of London itself. It differs from most corporations in the fact that it has no permanent governor nor chairman, and furthermore that the remuneration paid to the directors for their services is individually small. The governing body consists of twenty-six directors, that is to say, one governor, one deputy-governor and twenty-four directors. This body does not change except by death or resignation, etc., but the governor and his deputy, who act as chairman

ernor and all the ors being deputy and governor in rotation. The salary of the governor, as well as that o of the other twenty-four directors is £500 each. According to Francis. whose history of the Bank of England is practically out of print, the management of the bank is vested in the whole court of directors, which meets weekly, when a statement is read of the position of the bank as regards its securities, bullion and liabilities. The directors have equal power, and should a majority disapprove of the arrangements they may reconstruct them. Eight directors go out and eight come in annually, elected by the court of proprietors. The list of candidates recommended by the court of directors is transmitted to the proprietors, and the eight so

years, the deputy becoming gov-

recommended uniformly come When any person is proposed as a new director, inquiry is always instituted concerning his private character. Those who survive this fiery ordeal, and are approved of by the court of directors, never fail to be elected. The qualifications for a director are the possession of bank stock to the amount of £2,000; for the deputy-governor, £3,000, and for the governor, £4,000. The directors are responsible for the management of the affairs of the bank, and penalties are attached to their office individually and collectively on certain occasions. By their charter, however, they are not answerable to the government for the management of the monetary department, and the security which the public has for a good administration of affairs depends upon the discretion

#### The Singhalese. The greater number of children play

ing in the streets were boys. Girls are early accustomed to remain inside the huts and employ themselves in calamatous as that which suddenly household work. Besides this, they swept away 60,000 of the inhabitants levelop very young, being often maror twelve years old, and are wenty or thirty. Grandvery frequent. A furthe fact is the permanent disprope male and female births among Singhalese. The average is ten boys ernment to suppress this custom, it | maintains its ground, especially in the more remote districts of the islan'l. brothers with one wife in common, and ladies may be found the nappy possessor of ten or twelve husbands. These complicated family arrangements form the theme of many extraordinary stories; but it is very difficult to distinguish fact from fable on the subject. The Singhalese have a passion for music and dancing, and practice both arts according to a standard of taste very different from our own.

Their principal instruments are the drum and the tom-tom, vigorously belabored with wooden drum-sticks; besides these, they have reed-pipes, and a very primitive stringed instrument of one string. My evening calm was often broken in upon by the din of these ear-splitting instruments, and if I followed the sound to its source I was sure to find, in front of a fire under a palm tree, a group of ten or a dozen naked brown fellows, gayly painted with white, yellow or red stripes, and indulging in the most extraordinary antics. A circle of spectators stood round, and followed the grotesque performance with devout

attention .- Professor Haeckel, in Na-

Jack Ketch. Jack Ketch, "whose name," says Maodious office," was a real person, though some will have it that "Jack Ketch" is only a corruption of the name of Richard Jacquet, once lord of the manor of Tyburn. Jack Ketch became hangman about 1678, and held his office for a by Rose, the butcher, in 1688. It was ie who executed the Whig martyr, Lord William Russell, and the unfortunate Duke of Monmouth. That was a particular palmy time for the hanga nan. Snow makes out that under Henry VIII. there were 72,000 executions in thirty-eight years-a contrast with the present time, when the executions in England and Wales average, perhaps, fifteen a year, as against 104 about 1820, fifty-nine about 1830 and twenty a decade later, and this average of about forty hangings a week pales into insignificance beside some ofthe records under James II. and Jeffc of 300 persons were sent to the gallows; in Dorsetshire seventy-four, and in Somersetshire 233. At a time when Lady Alice Lisle was sentenced to be burned alive for harboring fugitive rebels and Jar II. rejuctantly com-muted the set nee to decapitation when women were scourged at the cert's tail through the streets, and a boy in his teens, accused of using seditions words, was sentenced to be parent, for, of course, men might easily Up with kettle, and down with the pan,

years, the hangman was kept busy. A Pretty Experiment. The following experiment in the way of physics without apparatus is given by a correspondent of La Nature. A clay pipe is laid over the top of a large wine glass, and a person is required to bring it down to the table, without touching either pipe or glass, without agitating the air or moving the table. The solution of the problem consists in taking up another like glass, rubing it vigorously on your sleeve, then bringing it near the pipe stem, which is thereupon strongly attracted, so that the pipe falls. This experiment is a pretty variation of the electric penduum, and shows that pipe clay, a very Lad conductor of electricity, yields readily to the attraction of an electric reign of George IV.—London Anti- festivals, celebrated at the beginning lapsing tank—the seams were sewed quary.

There are 19,037 boys and 4,566 girls confined in the reformatory and industrial schools of England.

It is said there are in New York Some Timely and Interesting Folk-Lore. city some 20,000 houses, each containing from two to forty families, and cantare, to sing, and rola, an interjection of the Christmas carol is derived from from this Pagan New the cantare, to sing, and rola, an interjection of the Christmas carol is derived from from this Pagan New the cantare, to sing, and rola, an interjection of the containing from the cantare, to sing, and rola, an interjection of the care and cantare, to sing, and rola, an interjection of the care and cantare, to sing, and rola, and rola,

and deputy-chairman of the board or court of directors, change every two to counterfeit the back of a renuine Christmas day in England, and was treasury note the first of the first o

> The legal right of a woman to be as young as she chooses has just been settled by a Pennsylvania court. An insurance company had issued a policy upon the life of a lady who gave her age as sixty-three. She died three months later, and the company claimed not to be liable, on the ground that the age of the insured had been misstated: that she was, in fact, seventy-seven instead of sixty-three years old. The plaintiff, the daughter of the deceased, contended that her mother had given her age as well as she could remember it, and was not guilty of fraud or deception. The jury found for the plaintiff, evidently taking the view that a woman's age is nobody's business, and that if she happens to count her years fifteen or twenty short it is a matter of no consequence. The case will go to the supreme court.

quakes a year have been known to occur. Mallet has collected the records of 6,830 earthquakes which took place over a period of 3,456 years previous to 1850; but 3,240 of these occurred during the last fifty years. It seems, therefore, that our earth is almost constantly shaking at some point, and no part of the world is entirely free from tremors of some degree. Professor study of earthquakes should receive derived from the abundance of holly, tions and certain stages of the disease more attention in countries little sub- which at some period grew in their i ect to their visitation. Such countries may at long intervals be shaken by earthquakes of a severe character, and it is suggested that even the stable ground of England may not be secure against disturbance by convulsions as

of Lisbon in 1755. every French cown of fool A or fool B-or, indeed, for the than English ovens at Christmas.' would point out to the British traveler | Protestant Europe as "The Children's gangs organized for this purpose. come messages every Christmas morn-One of the gang holds it and deals the ing. cards, while another of the gang makes | Leigh Hunt says that volumes can a sign to him to let him know the be written on each of the separate exact value of the cards given to the items of Christmas association, beginplayers. With this advantage it is ning with "roast beef and plum pud-

## traveler should lose."

to the clergy of claiming when accused is believed to be derived from Druid of felony to be delivered up to an ec- practices. It was an old belief that clesiastical judge-always favorable to sylvan spirits might look to the everhis own order-for compurgation, in- greens and segare among them protecstead of being tried in the ordinary way tion from fost until the return of before the lay judges of the land. In ancient times few persons, except use from arrly times are holly, ivy, those in holy orders, could read, and rosemary, bays, laurel and mistletoe, accordingly the test for an accused per- which, excepting the latter, retained son claiming benefit of clergy was his their place in both houses and churches ability to read. If he could not, the from Christmas until Candlemas. courts would not part with the defend- Holly and ivy still remain in England the skin from the throat, along the ant, but proceed to try him as if he the most esteemed Christmas ever- middle of the body underneath, meetwere a layman. Afterward, when edu- greens, though at the two universities ing the first incision at the tail; and a cauley, "has during a century and a cation became more general, other per- the windows of the college chapels are half been vulgarly given to all who in sons besides clergymen were able to decked with laurel London have succeeded him in his read; and so, in the reign of Edward Many of the rites and symbols at-III., parliament extended the privilege taching to the observance of this foot to the abdominal opening. The of clergy, as it is called, to clerkly lay- season may be traced to a period long skin was removed by working from men until the reign of Elizabeth. prior to the time when Julius Cæsar the latter and the back cuts at Women were not allowed their clergy first landed in Britain. The drawing the same time, the legs being cut until the reign of William and Mary, of the "yule log" comes from a very off at the joints. Then the body was when parliament extended the ben- ancient Scandinavian custom, when, rolled over, and the operation was relong time, though temporarily ousted efit to them. In the reign of in the winter solstice, during a certain Henry VII., however, a blow feast, large bonfires were kindled in were skinned. The absence of hair was aimed at this singular priv honor of the god Thor. The bringing from the skin facilitated the treatment ilege as enjoyed by laymen, and a in and placing of the ponderous log on of both sides with preservatives. Both statute was then passed against "di- the hearth of the baronial hall was sides were washed with arsenical soap verse persons lettered, who have been among the most joyous of ceremonies and salt, and rubbed with a flat stone. more bold to commit murders, rob- observed on Christmas eve in feudal The skin was then rolled up and bery, theft, as well as all other mistimes. If the charred remains of the packed away. Two days later it was chievous deeds," which enacted that log were preserved to light its sucpersons "not within holy orders" ac- cessor of the following Christmas, it cused of these offenses and convicted was considered a sure safeguard against thereof, were in cases of murder to be fires in the interim. marked with the letter "M" on the brawn of the left thumb, and in all tion of the English people, at one found to be hardened and the epiderothers with the letter "T," to denote, time, was called "The Burial of the mis thoroughly set. Powdered alum it is presumed, that the person had Wren," on St. Stephen's day, Decem- was now freely used, and the skin left been guilty of theft. In cases of high ber 26. On that day parties of boys to dry in the shade. Twenty days treason, benefit of clergy were never went from door to door, the leader allowed to be pleaded. It is stated carrying a fresh branch of evergreen that when an accused person claimed decorated gayly with ribbons and his clergy it was usual to test his learn- pieces of colored paper, to which was

erere mei Deus." In addition to the extraordinary character of this proeeeding, in which a touch of grim humor seems perceptible, its absurdity is apwhipped once a fortnight for seven have coached themselves up in the renuired test. The ecclesiastical judge, however, have given the defendant anything else to read; and in either tantamount thereto-was not so ri- their leisure through the winter. diculous as it seems. Without saying Christmas gifts had their origin in clay and molded into shape. After the more on the subject, it may be stated that the privilege was abolished in the Servius Tullus. B. C. 550. On these vious to mounting it had been in the re-

> The inhabitants of the North Pole upon it every man, woman and child country will be sociable enough when was expected to contribute a coin. Montana has over 1,000,000 head of

8,000 more containing two or three tion or joy, from a very early date. North German to the families, but not known technically as Bishor, Taylor observes that the "Glothe first whently and wh tenements. The polite name for these ria in Excelsis," the well-known nymn tree per sung by the angels to the shepherds English Business men who are seeking out Christmas carol. In former times about half many inventions in the way of adver- bishops were accustomed to sing these tising, will do well to remember that pious canticles among their clergy. an imitation of the greenback note of Warton tells us that, in 1521, Wynkyn any denomination has been declared to de Worde printed a set of Christmas be illegal by the treasury department, carols which were festal chansons for Some of these advertising devices are enlivening the merriment of the Christprinted in green ink on the back, and mas celebration, quite unlike our rewhen folded up look exactly like a ligious hymns of the present day, the view of obtaining information genuine greenback note of the denomi- which are popular among all classes, nation indicated by the figure. This is and we are told that the Puritans Dr. Playter, of Toronto, sent out a list a violation of the United States statute adopted them in keeping with their upon the subject, even though no at- more staid notions of Christmas obtempt be made to counterfeit the face servance. The boar's head, soused, of the bill. It is a punishable offense was anciently the first dish served on

ness man than a column or less kept the chanting of a certain carol. of the patients, and to their ancestry standing in his home paper the year Among other early English customs at this festival was that of the oblanders, who gave to their customers gifts of candles, and the bakers presented their patrons with yule cakes, which often represented some grotesque character in miniature, or pasty presents of some description.

Among the ancient Romans the laurel was an emolem of peace, joy and victory; whence an English authority derives the custom of decorating English homes with that evergreen, as a symbol, denoting joy for the victory gained over the powers of darkness, and of that peace on earth and good will toward men which the angels sung over the fields of Bethlehem. Other evergreens were subsequently adopted. The mistletoe, however, regarded rather as a symbol emanating from the heathenish rite of Druidism, was never admitted into churches, but is hung up in dwellings, where it signified, upon Christmas occasions, the right of any young man to salute with a kiss any maiden who passed beneath the bough. Since 1843 an average of 575 earth- The Christmas-box was one for the reception of money contributed in contemplation of this season, that masses might be said by the priests, who invoked forgiveness for excesses

committed by the people. The old English name of the holly was "holm," or "holm-oak," and in many parts of England it is still known by these names; and Holmesdale, in Surrey, and other villages whose names Milne has recently urged that the commence with Holm, have been A writer in Chambers' Journal says

concerning the etymology of mistletoe: "Mistletoe is an obsolete old English word, used, however, as late as in the writings of Boyle, and is defined in Dr. Johnson's original folio edition of his dictionary as the state of being mingled. Now, this is truly the condition of our plant, which is inter-Labouchere, editor of London Truth | mingled with the foliage of other trees, says that France is now one gigantic and mixes their juices with its own, gambling establishment. At Paris, and is indeed in rural places still called every one, from the fine lady to the the mistle. If to this we add the old abman, speculates at the bourse, and English tod or toe, signifying bush, we have at once the derivation, mean-

the 'read bush' inter game of baccarat to be played Row, The Christmas season is proverbial for my part," he says, "I hold that a as one of popular activity among the fool and his money being made to English people; and the Italians have part it signifies very little to the state a proverb expressive of this in the whether money be in the pocket of sentiment, "He has more business matter of that, of swindler C. But I The season is well known throughout in France that if he risks his cash at Festival." Christmas cards are very baccarat it is about fifty to one that he will be cheated. Any one may hold in London and other English cities are the bank and there are numerous busily engaged in delivering these wel-

not, perhaps, surprising that the gang | ding," and ending characteristically should win and that the unsuspecting with "love, hope, charity and en-

deavor." The popular custom of decorating the houses and churches at Christmas It was an ancient privilege allowed with evergreens is very ancient, and it

ing by requesting him to read the first attached a bird. At the door of each verse of the fifty-first Psalm, which in house visited the party joined in sing Latin begins with the words, "Mis- ing the following lines in rhyme: "The wren, the wren, the king of birds, Was caught on St. Stephen's day in the firs;

Although he is little his honor is great, So rise up, kind madame, and give us A penny or twopence to bury the wren;

of beer. who was generally the bishop, might, We wish you merry Christmas and a happy Then a wooden pelvis and shoulder however? have given the defendant New Year." One of the prettiest Christmas cuscase, in the event of his inability to toms is the Norwegian practice of fitted about the leg-iron, and laths comply, might have handed him over giving, on Christmas day, a dinner to nailed from one joint to the other. An to the law, and this proceeding gen- the birds. On that morning every exact copy of the skull in wood was erally meant death. A custom which gable, gateway or barn door is decora- bolted on in position. Then the several favored criminals solely on account of ted with a sheaf of corn attached to parts were wrapped with wisps of their good education appears to us, who live in times when it is justly thought birds are invited to make their Christ- with the skin of the elephant. From that superior intelligence adds a stain mas dinner. Even the poor peasants the measurements that had been made. to criminality of any kind, to be in the will contrive to have a handful at the distances between the various exhighest degree absurd; yet we are told least reserved for this purpose, and tremities were copied, and the protruby able writers that the benefit of what the birds do not eat on Christmas sions imitated by stuffing. The trunk clergy, or learning—for "clergy" is here day remains for them to finish at was filled with straw, and the wooden imitation of the skull covered with

of the year, an altar was erected in together, and the elephant was comevery village, and to the box placed Aubery mentions a spot in which cattle grazing on its fertile pastures

to be one of those Paganalia

Curious Facts About Consump

Consumption causes many 1

deaths than any other disease, and ar

statistics bearing upon its causes or

the conditions of its development are of much importance to both the medical profession and the public. With concerning the etiology of the disease of questions to each of many hundreds of physicians, having cases in practice: in Canada and the States of New York Ohio, Indiana Illinois cians answered the questions, and the doctor has made up from these 250 cases a concise report of much practical value. The average age of the patients was twenty-seven years; fortysix per cent. were males and fifty-four per cent. females; only twenty-eight per cent. were married. The circumference of the chest was in every case much below the average of vigorous persons of the same height, being only thirty-one and a half inches; the average height being five feet five and a half inches. Persons of such stature should have a chest circumference of about thirty-seven inches. About fifty-five per cent. had light blue eyes and light hair, and the nervous temperament largely prevailed. Two thirds of the patients had been engaged in indoor, sedentary occupation, and spent but little time in the open air. Much the greater part of them had slept in small unventilated bedrooms, two in a bed, had not usually worn flannel next the skin, nor used habitually any form of bath, and nearly all had been small or very moderate eaters, and used but very little fatty.

disease, while nearly three-fourths had resided in a locality favoring a humid, cool atmosphere. Mr. Playter draws some important deductions : Marriage in certain condiopment and progress of consumption. Heredity is not of such constancy and importance as a cause as appears to have been commonly believed, further than in so far as configuration and structure of the body, the relation, and the relative size and vigor of the different organs to each other are influenced by parentage-i.e., in a want of general stamina from defective construction. With the small lungs and consequent imperfect respiratory capacity, the individuals could not consume enough oxygen to utilize the digested products of a generous or full diet, especially

food except butter. The general hab-

its of nearly all had been good, and

but very few had used alcoholic spirits

to excess. In only thirty-six per cent.

of the cases had ancestors died of the

of unused and waste substances which should have been thrown off through the lungs. The one means which will best tend to prevent the development of the disease in those thus predisposed to it is apparent enough; it is that of increasing in early life by judicious physical exercise the size and capacity of the respiratory organs. The doctor draws attention to the desirability of taking into consideration the respiratory capacity of patients suffering from tubercular phthisis before prescribing a full or too

#### carbonaceous diet. Stuffing an Elephant's Skin. An article in Century, by Franklin H. North, contains the following de-

scription of an elephant's skin: Not long ago Ward dispatched a man to India to shoot an elephant. He obtained permission from the governor of the Madras presidency (for the elephant is protected by the laws), and after a long hunt, in which the natives joined, finally secured the largest stuffed specimen in the country, now in the museum of comparative zoology at Cambridge, Mass. The elephant was shot through the head. Careful measurements were first made of the body moved in three sections. One incision the back to the tail; another divided third cut severed the head from the body. On the inside of each leg an inpeated. Finally the head and trunk spread out, and the pieces of flesh adhering were removed. After being again treated with arsenic, it was left undisturbed for a week, at the expira-The custom among the juvenile por- tion of which time the fibers were after the commencement of the operation, the skin, then weighing only two hundred and forty pounds, was shipped to America. Upon its arrival hither, four bars of wrought iron, each twelve feet long and one and a quarter inches thick, were bent shape for the legs and firmly bolted to a beam sixteen feet long and four inches thick. This was to serve as a backbone for the attachment of ribs, pelvis and scapulæ. Semi-circular Your pocket full of money, your cellar full shaped bones were attached to the blades were set, and at each joint of